Minutes of DAAC Meeting

Attendance

DAAC members present were: Seren Derin, Chair; Irene Barrelet, Clerk; Jim MacRostie; Joan Swift; and Dana Goddard

Others present were Bonnie Isman, Library Director; George Hicks, Grounds/Facilities of Library; and Nathaniel Malloy, DAAC staff liaison.

Absent: Joe Tringali, Vice-chair; Gerry Weiss.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Derin called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

MINUTES

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Jones Library Parking

The Disability Access Advisory Committee (DAAC) met with the Bonnie Isman, Library Director, and George Hicks, Grounds/Facilities of the Library, on location—at the Jones Library—to discuss the handicapped parking spaces. Currently, there are six diagonal pull-in spaces: four standard spaces and two HP spaces with unloading aisles. However, the spaces are not clearly marked as the lines are faded and mostly illegible. The DAAC explained that the southernmost HP space closest to Amity Street does not have an adequate unloading aisle because of the angled curb designed to preserve the dogwood tree near the edge of the property. The committee would like to see two HP spaces with a shared van accessible unloading aisle in the library parking lot. Ms. Isman noted that this option would eliminate one pull-in parking spot. She also mentioned that the Board of Trustees of the Library is beginning to develop a long-term facilities plan for the Jones Library, which may include options for redesigning the parking lot. The DAAC concurred that developing a long-term solution for the parking lot was important, however, a current solution is necessary.

The discussion then turned to whether HP parking or free 15-minute drop-off parking could be located on Amity Street directly in front of the Library, and if these spaces could be incorporated into the Public Works' sidewalk reconstruction project. The DAAC explained that due to the aging population of the community, and the scarcity of van accessible parking in the downtown, especially within reasonable distance of the library, it is important that the Jones Library

Disability Access Advisory Committee April 8, 2010 1:00 PM Jones Library Parking Lot, 43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA

maintains two HP spaces. The idea of moving one HP space to the street would be a last ditch measure if the Town Engineer thought it was possible.

Ms. Isman and the DAAC decided that it would be best to continue the discussion with the Board of Trustees at their May 4th meeting. To help prepare for the meeting, DAAC staff liaison said he would contact the Town Engineer about any possible plans for Jones Library parking lot.

The DAAC also pointed out that the existing HP parking sign was not at the correct height, and that the fine amount listed needed to be adjusted to show the current fine of \$200.

Next Meeting(s)

Tuesday May 11, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m. Tuesday June 8, 2010 @ 11:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 PM

Respectfully submitted, Nathaniel Malloy, staff liaison